

**Inspection date**

9 February 2015

Previous inspection date

4 September 2014

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Requires improvement</b>	<b>3</b>
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder does not successfully plan a broad range of activities that cover all areas of learning and always relate to children's needs. This means some activities do not extend children's learning further.
- The childminder does not assess children's progress regularly enough to identify any gaps in their learning. This means she cannot ensure children progress well in all areas of learning.
- The childminder does not seek or share detailed information about children's learning with parents or other settings they attend. This means she cannot successfully promote consistent learning experiences for children.
- Resources are not stored so that children can make spontaneous and independent play choices.

### It has the following strengths

- The childminder is patient and warm towards children. This helps them to feel secure and confident with her.
- The childminder demonstrates a suitable understanding of her strengths and areas for her to develop.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

### To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- plan a broad range of challenging activities across areas of learning that take into account children's learning needs and information from parents and other early years settings children attend
- make regular assessments to monitor children's progress and identify any gaps in their learning.

### To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- make resources more accessible to children, so they can make spontaneous and independent choices.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing.
- The inspector toured the areas of the home used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector sought the views of parents through discussion and letters written for inspection purposes.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder.
- The inspector read a sample of documentation, including the safeguarding policy and children's development records.

### Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement**

Overall, planning does not successfully focus on children's learning needs. This means that although children enjoy the activities, some are not sufficiently challenging. For example, when playing with play dough, the childminder encourages children to mould, cut and shape it to develop the muscles in their hands. This supports their early writing skills. However, when an older child counts to 10, the childminder congratulates them, but does not encourage them to count beyond this. Although she engages with the children during the activity, she does not help all children become more involved to develop their personal, social and emotional development further. The childminder introduces basic mathematical concepts such as 'heavy' and 'light' as they move equipment. Infrequent assessment of children's learning means the childminder cannot securely monitor progress or gaps in their learning. The childminder periodically shares children's learning journals with parents. However, these do not reflect children's up-to-date learning needs well. This has an impact on the information they share and its effectiveness.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement**

The childminder gathers information from parents about their children before they attend. This helps her settling-in process and, as a result, children are happy and confident. The childminder shares children's care routines with parents through daily contact books to promote a consistent approach. The childminder teaches children to become independent. She encourages them to take off their jackets, to prepare for activities, and wash their hands before and after eating. These skills support children as they move on to school. The childminder sets up some activities for when children arrive so they can begin their play straight away. However, poor organisation of resources means children have to ask for those they cannot access, which interrupts their play ideas. The childminder takes children to a variety of toddler groups to introduce them to different groups of children. The childminder works with parents to provide healthier lunchtime options. She ensures children play outside every day for exercise and fresh air to promote a healthy lifestyle.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement**

Since her last inspection, the childminder has made some improvements to her knowledge and practice. She recognises symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk from harm and the appropriate procedures to follow in these circumstances. The childminder has attended training, which helps her understand how to contact specialists to support children who may have additional needs. However, the childminder does not successfully promote all aspects of children's learning and development to ensure they make good progress in all areas of learning. The childminder does not work effectively with parents and other settings children attend to complement children's learning.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY331390
<b>Local authority</b>	Plymouth
<b>Inspection number</b>	990871
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 8
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	3
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 September 2014
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Plymouth, Devon. She offers care every day from 9am until 5pm, all year round, except public holidays. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

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